4. (Amended) The oligonucleotide as claimed in claim 1, wherein the 5' TTN_1N_2TT 3' unit is repeated at least once.

5. (Amended) The oligonucleotide as claimed in claim 4, wherein the 5' TTN_1N_2TT 3' unit is repeated twice.

6. (Amended) The oligonucleotide as claimed in either of claims 4 or 5, wherein the repeated 5' TTN_1N_2TT 3' units are separated by a nucleotide N_3 which is identical or different from other N_3 nucleotides and which is A, C, T, or G.

7. (Amended) The oligonucleotide as claimed in claim 6, wherein the 5'-most nucleotide N_3 is cytosine.

8. (Amended) The oligonucleotide according to claim 1 comprising the sequence 5' $TTAGTTCTTAGTTN_3TTAGTT$ 3', wherein A represents adenine, T represents thymine, G represents guanine and C represents cytosine, and wherein N_3 is A, T, C, or G.

9. (Amended) The oligonucleotide according to claim 1 that induces human lymphocyte proliferation.

10. (Amended) The oligonucleotide according to claim 1 that induces cytokine secretion.

11. (Amended) The oligonucleotide as claimed in claim 10 that induces IL 10 secretion.

12. (Amended) The oligonucleotide as claimed in claim 10 that induces γ interferon secretion.

13. (Amended) The oligonucleotide according to claim 1 that increases the expression of the activation marker CD86 on human B lymphocytes.

14. (Amended) The oligonucleotide according to claim 1 that increases the expression of the cytokine receptor CD25 on human B lymphocytes.

19. (Amended) An immunization composition for human use, comprising at least one immunization antigen and at least one oligonucleotide as claimed in claim 1.

20. (New) A method of stimulating an immune response in a human, the method comprising administering to the human an immunostimulating amount of a composition according to claim 1.

21. (New) A method of enhancing a human immune response to an antigen, the method comprising administering an oligonucleotide according to claim 1 to a human carrying the antigen or administering the oligonucleotide before or with administration of the antigen.

REMARKS

The claims of this U.S. national phase of a PCT application have been amended to bring them into conformance with U.S. practice. No new subject matter has been added, nor has the scope of the claims been amended.

If there are any questions or comments regarding this Response or application, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned attorney as indicated below.

Respectfully submitted,

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